

APPROVED

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee

January 17, 2008

Members present: Harry Beyer, Gerry Boyle, Elissa Brown, Jim Coutre, Dinny McIntyre, Ken Miller, Barbara Pike, Andrea Siani, Jim Terry

Members absent: none

Others present: Marcia Rasmussen and a number of citizens

Motions:

To accept minutes, as amended, from January 3, 2008: moved, seconded and approved 9-0.

To recommend that VHB's Alternative #2 for the West Concord trail alignment along the unused spur to Commonwealth Ave. be used for purposes of the 25% design: moved, seconded, approved 9-0.

Materials distributed:

- Information from White Pond Advisory Committee (WPAC) concerning its work on a people management plan to address current and projected needs for the White Pond area
- Letter dated January 3 from VHB outlining the remaining scope of work associated with the 25% design.
- Map and description of alternative path alignments through West Concord center
- Portions of the VHB trail design

Discussion:

The request for materials under the Freedom of Information Act was discussed. It was suggested that committee members wait for further clarification until they send any more material to Ruth Lauer.

Submittal of the PNF was discussed. The timing of the submittal was questioned.

The trail alignment in the West Concord Depot area was discussed. Marcia said that the design in this area would likely be an "evolutionary" process. The committee recommended VHB's Alternative #2 (see above motion), with a recommendation that further investigation is warranted in the 75% design.

MCI's use of the right of way was discussed. Marcia will ask EOT, MCI, and VHB for clarification.

The culvert under Powder Mill Road was discussed. Elissa will contact Town safety officials to determine their needs for access to the trail and Jim Shuris to discuss ways to minimize traffic disruption if the Town decides to replace the culvert.

Other matters relating to the 25% design were discussed: VHB has indicated that the current specifications for surface material will be sufficient for the 25% design. Privacy concerns will not be addressed in detail in the 25% design, but examples of mitigation measures will be provided.

The Environmental Technical Memorandum was briefly discussed. Advisory committee members agreed to submit comments to committee chair, Elissa Brown, for compilation.

The committee will meet on January 24 and February 7. After VHB has submitted the 25% design on January 31, committee members will make a compilation of their comments about the design.

Marcia will prepare a press release to announce the hearing for the 25% design on February 12.

Harry, Andrea, and Barbara will meet to review the information from WPAC and to make comments and recommendations.

The Mass Hwy Coordinating Committee will meet on January 31. Jim Terry and Marcia are planning to attend.

Andrea will request feedback from Walden Pond regarding issues and costs that may relate to White Pond.

Harry attended the Town Chairs' meeting and will continue to represent BFRTAC on occasion at future meetings.

Citizen comments were heard from Julie Melbin, Liz Berk, Judy LaRocca, Dan Latham and Jane Coutre

Meeting adjourned at 9:08.